

COUNTRY ~~Germany~~ Approved For Release 2006/08/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R012000160002-3TOPIC ~~Merseburg Airfield~~

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PREPARED 22 April 1952

## REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

## REMARKS

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1. Between 2 and 4:45 p.m. on 27 March 1952, flying was practiced by ten aircraft at Merseburg airfield. There was clear weather. The planes made individual flights of 10 to 12 minutes. A fire truck was parked at the take-off point. Between 10 a.m. and 4:40 p.m. on 28 March, six or seven aircraft made high-altitude flights in clear weather. There was a strong wind from the east. The take-offs were made from the west end of the runway. There was no flying at the field between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on 1 April. About 4:20 p.m., three swept-back jet fighters landed at the field. The planes probably came from another airfield. Ten swept-back jet fighters were parked at the east end of the runway.

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3. From 23 March to 4 April, 24 to 30 MiG-15s, including one type-29 were observed at the field. On 28 March, three MiG-15s made 40-minute flights. Between 8 and 8:30 a.m. on 4 April, there was flying by four MiG-15s in groups of two. The aircraft were fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks. During the period of observation, radio trucks were observed at the field.

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Comment. The report confirms that Merseburg airfield is occupied by a fighter regiment. According to previous observations and judging by incoming shipments of aircraft, the regiment is equipped with 31 jet planes. It is noticeable that there was flying by individual planes and aircraft in groups of two, while the stage of training of the other new fighter regiments has already advanced to flying in squadron formation. It is possible that the regiment in Merseburg has many new pilots who only recently started transition training with jet planes.